

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed February 3, 2010 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing Amendment and following remarks have been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12-15, and 18-22 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12-15, and 18-22 stand rejected.

Initially, to advance prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned after reviewing the above amendment to discuss any matters relating to the prosecution of the application.

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of the cited references describes nor suggests the claimed invention. For example, no combination of the cited references describes nor suggests a body outer surface including a plurality of second fastening mechanisms for removably coupling a golf glove flap portion and a golf glove backing portion. (Emphasis added). Notably, the golf glove flap portion and the golf glove backing portion include complementary fastening mechanisms such that the golf glove flap portion is coupleable to the golf glove backing portion.

Moreover, no combination of the cited references describes nor suggests a body having a first edge that is longer than a second edge, wherein the body is configured to couple to a frame support having a frame longitudinal axis extending therethrough such that the first edge is substantially parallel to the frame longitudinal axis and the second edge substantially circumscribes the support. (Emphasis added). Notably, such a feature is a structural feature that provides a longer fastening mechanism that facilitates easily coupling a glove to the glove drying apparatus.

For at least the reasons set forth above, the present patent application is submitted to be in condition for allowance.

The rejection of Claims 7, 9, 10, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,471,091 (Unverzagt) is respectfully traversed.

Unverzagt describes a label holding and dispensing device 10 that includes a strap 24 that has a first end 26, a second end 28, an outer surface 34, and an inner surface 32. A

fastening member 36 removably fastens inner surface 32 to outer surface 34. Fastening member 36 includes a hook and loop fastening means. A securing member 38 removably secures a housing 12 to strap 24. Securing member 38 includes a hook and loop fastening means. A loop portion 40 is securely coupled to outer surface 34 of strap 24, and a hook portion 42 is securely coupled to a bottom surface of a bottom wall 14 of a housing 12. Strap 24 has a length between 5 and 9 inches. Notably, Unverzagt does not describe nor suggest a golf glove drying apparatus that includes a body outer surface including a plurality of second fastening mechanisms for removably coupling a golf glove flap portion and a golf glove backing portion.

Claim 7 recites a golf glove drying apparatus for use with a frame support. The golf glove drying apparatus comprises: “a first end, an opposing second end, a body extending from said first end to said second end . . . said body outer surface comprises a plurality of second fastening mechanisms for removably coupling a golf glove flap portion and a golf glove backing portion directly against said body such that the glove remains coupled in a mating arrangement against said outer surface when said apparatus is coupled to the support....”

Applicant respectfully submits that Unverzagt does not describe nor suggest a golf glove drying apparatus as is recited in Claim 7. Specifically, Unverzagt does not describe nor suggest a golf glove drying apparatus that includes a body outer surface including a plurality of second fastening mechanisms for removably coupling a golf glove flap portion and a golf glove backing portion. (Emphasis added). Rather, in contrast to the invention, Unverzagt merely describes a loop portion that is coupled to a strap and a hook portion that is coupled to a housing.

Moreover, Unverzagt does not describe nor suggest a golf glove drying apparatus that includes a body and a first edge that is longer than a second edge, wherein the body is configured to couple to a frame support having a frame longitudinal axis extending therethrough such that the first edge is substantially parallel to the frame longitudinal axis and the second edge substantially circumscribes the support. Rather, in contrast to the invention, Unverzagt describes a device that includes a body and a first edge that is shorter than a second edge when the device is in use. (Emphasis added). Applicant respectfully submits that such a feature is not merely a matter of design choice, but rather is a structural feature

that provides a longer fastening mechanism that facilitates easily coupling a glove to the glove drying apparatus.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 7 is submitted to be patentable over Unverzagt.

Claims 9, 10, and 12 depend from independent Claim 7. When the recitations of Claims 9, 10, and 12 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 9, 10, and 12 likewise are patentable over Unverzagt.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 7, 9, 10, and 12 under Section 103 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Unverzagt in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,587,570 (Kilbey) is respectfully traversed.

Unverzagt is described above.

Kilbey describes a pelvic traction device 10 that includes a first end portion 18 and a second end portion 20. First end portion 18 includes two strips 22 and 24 of a pile material for a fabric fastener. Second end portion 20 includes two strips 26 and 28 of a hook material for a fabric fastener. A plurality of strips 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, and 46 are coupled to device 10. Each strip 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, and 46 includes a pad 48 of pile material for a fabric fastener. A first end of a pulling strap 50 is coupled to device 10 and a second end of strap 50 is looped through a D-ring 58, folded back, secured with a loop 60. A length of strap 50 is adjusted by pulling on a free end of strap 50 to push a pelvic bone of a patient towards the patient's feet to stretch a spine of the patient. Notably, Kilbey does not describe nor suggest a golf glove drying apparatus that includes a body outer surface including a plurality of second fastening mechanisms for removably coupling a golf glove flap portion and a golf glove backing portion.

Claims 20 and 21 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 7, which is recited above.

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of Unverzagt and Kilbey describes nor suggests a golf glove drying apparatus as is recited in Claim 7. Specifically, no combination of Unverzagt and Kilbey describes nor suggests a golf glove drying apparatus

that includes a body outer surface including a plurality of second fastening mechanisms for removably coupling a golf glove flap portion and a golf glove backing portion. (Emphasis added). Rather, in contrast to the invention, Unverzagt merely describes a loop portion that is coupled to a strap and a hook portion that is coupled to a housing. Kilbey does not overcome the noted deficiencies of Unverzagt, but rather is cited to merely describe a plurality of fastening mechanisms.

Moreover, no combination of Unverzagt and Kilbey describes nor suggests a golf glove drying apparatus that includes a body and a first edge that is longer than a second edge, wherein the body is configured to couple to a frame support having a frame longitudinal axis extending therethrough such that the first edge is substantially parallel to the frame longitudinal axis and the second edge substantially circumscribes the support. Rather, in contrast to the invention, Unverzagt and Kilbey each describes a device that includes a body and a first edge that is shorter than a second edge when the device is in use. (Emphasis added). Applicant respectfully submits that such a feature is not merely a matter of design choice, but rather is a structural feature that provides a longer fastening mechanism that facilitates easily coupling a glove to the glove drying apparatus.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 7 is submitted to be patentable over Unverzagt in view of Kilbey.

When the recitations of Claims 20 and 21 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 20 and 21 likewise are patentable over Unverzagt in view of Kilbey.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 20 and 21 under Section 103 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 7, 9, 10, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,499,227 (Jacobson) in view of Unverzagt is respectfully traversed.

Jacobson describes a sports glove drying device including a strap 35 that is wrapped about a pole 20 of a golf cart 15. Strap 35 includes a rigid first end 34 and a flexible second end 32. After strap 35 is wrapped around pole 20, second end 32 is pulled through a latch 70 to secure strap 35 against pole 20 such that first end 34 extends rigidly outward from pole 20

to suspend a card 40 therefrom. Card 40 includes a glove attachment device 50 including a hook tape 76 on one side and a pile tape 74 on a second side. Notably, Jacobson does not describe nor suggest a golf glove drying apparatus that includes a body outer surface including a plurality of second fastening mechanisms for removably coupling a golf glove flap portion and a golf glove backing portion.

Unverzagt is described above.

Claim 7 is recited above.

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of Jacobson and Unverzagt describes nor suggests a golf glove drying apparatus as is recited in Claim 7. Specifically, no combination of Jacobson and Unverzagt describes nor suggests a golf glove drying apparatus that includes a body outer surface including a plurality of second fastening mechanisms for removably coupling a golf glove flap portion and a golf glove backing portion. (Emphasis added). Rather, in contrast to the invention, Jacobsen merely describes a card including a hook tape on one side and a pile tape on another side. Unverzagt does not overcome the not noted deficiencies of Jacobson, but rather merely describes a device that includes a single securing member that secures a housing to a strap.

Moreover, no combination of Jacobson and Unverzagt describes nor suggests a golf glove drying apparatus that includes a body and a first edge that is longer than a second edge, wherein the body is configured to couple to a frame support having a frame longitudinal axis extending therethrough such that the first edge is substantially parallel to the frame longitudinal axis and the second edge substantially circumscribes the support. Rather, in contrast to the invention, Jacobson and Unverzagt each describes a device that includes a body and a first edge that is shorter than a second edge when the device is in use. (Emphasis added).

Claims 9, 10, and 12 depend from independent Claim 7. When the recitations of Claims 9, 10, and 12 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 9, 10, and 12 likewise are patentable over Jacobson in view of Unverzagt.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 7, 9, 10, and 12 under Section 103 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jacobson in view of Unverzagt and further in view of Kilbey is respectfully traversed.

Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey are described above.

Claims 20 and 21 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 7, which is recited above.

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey describes nor suggests a golf glove drying apparatus as is recited in Claim 7. Specifically, no combination of Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey describes nor suggests a golf glove drying apparatus that includes a body outer surface including a plurality of second fastening mechanisms for removably coupling a golf glove flap portion and a golf glove backing portion. (Emphasis added). Rather, in contrast to the invention, Jacobsen merely describes a card including a hook tape on one side and a pile tape on another side. No combination of Unverzagt and Kilbey overcomes the noted deficiencies of Jacobson, but rather Unverzagt merely describes a loop portion that is coupled to a strap and a hook portion that is coupled to a housing, and Kilbey is cited to merely describe a plurality of fastening mechanisms.

Moreover, no combination of Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey describes nor suggests a golf glove drying apparatus that includes a body and a first edge that is longer than a second edge, wherein the body is configured to couple to a frame support having a frame longitudinal axis extending therethrough such that the first edge is substantially parallel to the frame longitudinal axis and the second edge substantially circumscribes the support. Rather, in contrast to the invention, Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey each describes a device that includes a body and a first edge that is shorter than a second edge when the device is in use. (Emphasis added). Applicant respectfully submits that such a feature is not merely a matter of design choice, but rather is a structural feature that provides a longer fastening mechanism that facilitates easily coupling a glove to the glove drying apparatus.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 7 is submitted to be patentable over Jacobson in view of Unverzagt and further in view of Kilbey.

When the recitations of Claims 20 and 21 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 20 and 21 likewise are patentable over Jacobson in view of Unverzagt and further in view of Kilbey.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 20 and 21 under Section 103 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 13-15, and 18, 19, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Jacobson in view of Unverzagt and further in view of Kilbey is respectfully traversed.

Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey are described above.

Claim 1 recites a golf cart comprising “a golf cart frame support having at least one external surface and defining a longitudinal axis . . . and an apparatus for coupling a glove including a flap portion and a backing portion to said support, said apparatus comprising a first end, an opposing second end, a body extending from said first end to said second end . . . said body comprising an inner surface and an opposite outer surface . . . said body outer surface comprising a plurality of second fastening mechanisms for removably coupling the glove flap portion and the glove backing portion directly against said body such that a surface of the glove remains coupled against said outer surface in a mating arrangement when said apparatus is coupled to said support....”

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey describes nor suggests a golf cart as is recited in Claim 1. Specifically, no combination of Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey describes nor suggests a golf cart that includes an apparatus including a body that includes a body outer surface including a plurality of second fastening mechanisms for removably coupling a golf glove flap portion and a golf glove backing portion. (Emphasis added). Rather, in contrast to the invention, Jacobsen merely describes a card including a hook tape on one side and a pile tape on another side. No combination of Unverzagt and Kilbey overcomes the noted deficiencies of Jacobson, but rather Unverzagt merely describes a loop portion that is coupled to a strap and a hook portion that is coupled to a housing, and Kilbey is cited to merely describe a plurality of fastening mechanisms.

Moreover, no combination of Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey describes nor suggests a golf cart that includes an apparatus that includes a body and a first edge that is longer than a second edge, wherein the body is configured to couple to a frame support having a frame longitudinal axis extending therethrough such that the first edge is substantially parallel to the frame longitudinal axis and the second edge substantially circumscribes the support. Rather,

in contrast to the invention, Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey each describes a device that includes a body and a first edge that is shorter than a second edge when the device is in use. (Emphasis added). Applicant respectfully submits that such a feature is not merely a matter of design choice, but rather is a structural feature that provides a longer fastening mechanism that facilitates easily coupling a glove to the glove drying apparatus.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Jacobson in view of Unverzagt and further in view of Kilbey.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 18, and 19 depend directly or indirectly from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 18, and 19 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 18, and 19 likewise are patentable over Jacobson in view of Unverzagt and further in view of Kilbey.

Claim 13 recites a method of drying a damp golf glove including a flap portion and a backing portion, the method comprising “providing an apparatus that includes a first end, an opposing second end, a body extending from the first end to the second end . . . wherein the body includes an inner surface and an opposite outer surface . . . removably coupling the golf glove flap portion and the golf glove backing portion against the body using a plurality of second fastening mechanisms such that the glove is directly coupled against the body outer surface in a mating arrangement when the apparatus is coupled to the support....”

Applicant respectfully submits that no combination of Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey describes nor suggests a method of drying a damp golf glove as is recited in Claim 13. Specifically, no combination of Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey describes nor suggests removably coupling a golf glove flap portion and a golf glove backing portion against a body using a plurality of second fastening mechanisms such that the glove is directly coupled against the body outer surface in a mating arrangement. (Emphasis added). Rather, in contrast to the invention, Jacobsen merely describes a card including a hook tape on one side and a pile tape on another side. No combination of Unverzagt and Kilbey overcomes the noted deficiencies of Jacobson, but rather Unverzagt merely describes a loop portion that is coupled to a strap and a hook portion that is coupled to a housing, and Kilbey is cited to merely describe a plurality of fastening mechanisms.

Moreover, no combination of Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey describes nor suggests coupling an apparatus that includes a body and a first edge that is longer than a second edge to a support having a frame longitudinal axis extending therethrough such that the first edge is substantially parallel to the frame longitudinal axis and the second edge substantially circumscribes the support. Rather, in contrast to the invention, Jacobson, Unverzagt, and Kilbey each describes providing a device that includes a body and a first edge that is shorter than a second edge when the device is in use. (Emphasis added).

For at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 13 is submitted to be patentable over Jacobson in view of Unverzagt and further in view of Kilbey.

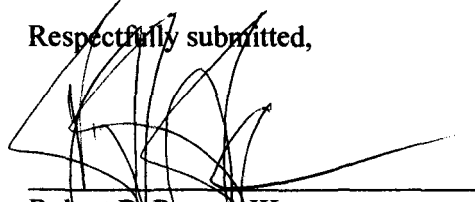
Claims 14, 15, and 22 depend from independent Claim 13. When the recitations of Claims 14, 15, and 22 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 13, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 14, 15, and 22 likewise are patentable over Jacobson in view of Unverzagt and further in view of Kilbey.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that the Section 103 rejection of the presently pending claims is not a proper rejection. For example, Kilbey describes a device that includes a strap including a D-ring and a loop to adjust a length of the strap. Nowhere does Kilbey describe nor suggest removably coupling other golf equipment to an apparatus using at least one third fastening mechanism as is recited in Claim 13. Rather, Kilbey describes adjusting a strap 50 by pulling on a free end of strap 50 to push a pelvic bone of a patient towards the patient's feet to stretch a spine of the patient. See, e.g., column 2, lines 51-73. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that substituting the strap, D-ring, and/or loop as described by Kilbey would not have yielded predictable results to one of ordinary skill in the art.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 13-15, and 18, 19, and 22 under Section 103 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited. Should this application require an Examiner Amendment to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss any matters relating to the allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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